

June 21, 2002

Lauren A. Liss, Commissioner
Department of Environmental Protection
1 Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Commissioner Liss:

It is my pleasure to approve 20 Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's) for the river and stream segments in the Neponset River Basin known to have recreational and shellfish harvesting use impairments due to bacterial contamination. Most of these waterbody segments (16 of 20) were included in Massachusetts' 1998 303(d) list. The remaining four segments were identified as impaired during the development of the original TMDLs.

EPA has determined, as set forth in the enclosed review document, that the bacteria TMDLs for the Neponset River Basin meet the requirements of Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, and EPA's implementing regulations (40 CFR part 130).

I want to congratulate you and the Division of Watershed Management staff for the excellent work in developing these TMDLs.

Sincerely,

Linda Murphy, Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection

cc: Cynthia Giles
Glenn Haas
Rick Dunn
Russ Isaac